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Zhao et al. (43) **Pub. Date: Mar. 16, 2017**(54) **LOCKING AND UNLOCKING A MOBILE
DEVICE USING FACIAL RECOGNITION**(52) **U.S. Cl.**CPC *G06F 21/32* (2013.01); *H04W 12/06*
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(57)

ABSTRACT

In an embodiment of the invention, an unlocked mobile device is configured to capture images, analyze the images to detect a user's face, and automatically lock the device in response to determining that a user's face does not appear in the images. The camera capturing and face recognition processing may be triggered by the device having detected that it has been motionless for a threshold period of time. In another embodiment, a locked mobile device is configured to capture an initial image using its camera, capture a new image in response to detecting movement of the device, determine that the device moved to a use position, capture a subsequent image in response to determining that the device moved to a use position, analyze the subsequent image to detect a user's face, and unlock the device in response to detecting the user's face. Other embodiments are also described and claimed.

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